

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An optical disk controller for performing signal processing for an optical disk, comprising:

an error correcting section for performing error correction for data read from the optical disk and outputting an error correction result;

a status generator for generating digital status reports based on the error correction result outputted by the error correcting section, each representing the operation state of the optical disk controller; and

a status sampling section for selectively sampling the digital status reports.

2. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 1, wherein the status sampling section comprises a sampling interval setting portion for setting a status sampling interval.

3. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 2, wherein the sampling interval setting portion sets the sampling interval according to the rotational speed of the optical disk.

4. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 3, wherein the sampling interval setting portion determines the rotational speed of the optical disk according to a synchronization period of a signal demodulated from the optical disk.

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5. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 2, further comprising assigning means for allowing the sampling interval setting portion to set the sampling interval according to a command input externally.
6. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 2, wherein the sampling interval setting portion sets the sampling interval according to an error rate of a signal demodulated from the optical disk.
7. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 1, wherein the status sampling section comprises a sampling category storing portion that stores "sampling abort" status indicating that sampling operation should be aborted, and when the status report generated by the status generator matches with the "sampling abort" status stored in the sampling category storing portion, the sampling is discontinued.
8. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 1, wherein the status sampling section comprises a sampling category storing portion that stores "forced sampling" status indicating that the status report should be forcibly output even during sampling operation, and

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when the status report generated by the status generator matches with the "forced sampling" status stored in the sampling category storing portion, the status is output even during sampling operation.

9. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 7 or 8, further comprising assigning means for setting sampling category information representing the relationship between a factor in the status report and sampling operation and storing the sampling category information in the sampling category storing portion.

10. (Original) The optical disk controller of Claim 9, wherein the status sampling section updates the sampling category information stored in the sampling category storing portion according to a signal demodulated from the optical disk.

11. (Currently Amended) An optical disk device comprising an optical disk controller, said optical disk controller comprising:

an error correcting section for performing error correction for data read from the optical disk and outputting an error correction result;

a status generator for generating digital status reports based on the error correction result output from the error correcting section, each representing the operation state of the optical disk controller; and

a status sampling section for selectively sampling the digital status reports.

12. (Currently Amended) The optical disk device of Claim 11, further comprising a system controller for controlling an operation of the optical disk controller in reference to the ~~digital~~ status reports outputted by the status sampling section.

13. (Currently Amended) An optical disk controller for performing signal processing for an optical disk, comprising:

 a status generator for generating ~~digital~~ status reports each representing the operation state of the optical disk controller for a specific sector of the optical disk; and

 a status sampling section for selectively sampling the ~~digital~~ status reports so that the number of the ~~digital~~ status reports is decreased, and outputting only the selected ~~digital~~ status reports.

14. (Currently Amended) An optical disk device comprising an optical disk controller and a system controller, said optical disk controller comprising:

 a status generator for generating ~~digital~~ status reports each representing the operation state of the optical disk controller for a specific sector of the optical disk; and

 a status sampling section for selectively sampling the ~~digital~~ status reports so that the number of the ~~digital~~ status reports is decreased, and outputting only the selected ~~digital~~ status reports,

 wherein the system controller controls an operation of the optical disk controller in reference to the ~~digital~~ status reports outputted by the status sampling section.

15. (Previously presented) An optical disk controller for performing signal processing for an optical disk, comprising:

 a status generator for generating status reports each representing the operation state of the optical disk controller; and

 a status sampling section for selectively sampling the status reports, wherein the status sampling section comprises a sampling interval setting portion for setting a status sampling interval, and

 wherein the sampling interval setting portion sets the sampling interval according to the rotational speed of the optical disk.

16. (Previously presented) The optical disk controller of Claim 15, wherein the sampling interval setting portion determines the rotational speed of the optical disk according to a synchronization period of a signal demodulated from the optical disk.